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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/748,514

12/30/2003

Oliver Young

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35374

7590

10/04/2005

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EXAMINER

LAI, ANNE VIET NGA

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2636

DATE MAILED: 10/04/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/748,514

Applicant(s)

YOUNG ET AL.

Examiner

Anne V. Lai

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 September 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 September 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 9/12/2005 have been fully considered:

The provisional double patenting rejection is removed because the co-pending application 10/749,154 has the same filing date with the current application.

The amendment does not place the claims in condition for allowance because it does not overcome the teaching of Hayes et al.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1- 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by **Hayes et al** [US. 6,932,382 or US. 2005/0093276].

In claims 1-2, **Hayes et al** disclose a vehicle occupant sensing system for detecting condition of a vehicle seat (fig. 1) comprising:

a circuit carrier 22 (flexible printed circuit mat) and a plurality of leads 32 (figs. 2-4; col. 3, lines 32-55);

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at least one low profile sensor assembly 26 (figs. 2 and 4) having a housing that includes a base (56, 60, 64; fig. 6), an upper slide member (second housing member 54, second subassembly 90, magnet 48; figs. 4, 9-11), and at least one intermediated guide member (first housing member 52, tube 58, column 68, alignment slot 72; figs. 4, 6-7), the upper slide member 54 is guided by the intermediate guide member 52 to move toward and away from the base (arrow 92 shows direction of movement in figs. 4 and 11) in response to movement of the vehicle seat (col. 4, line 6 – col. 5, line 50);

at least one sensor 46 (figs. 7-8) supported by the circuit carrier and fixed relative to the upper slide member and operable to detect movement of upper slide member, the sensor including a plurality of terminals (78; figs. 7-8) corresponding to a plurality of leads presented by the electrical circuit;

a plurality of conductive connectors 94 (figs. 5, 8) including at least a deformable blade 98 (figs. 12-14); the deformable blade 98 piercing through the circuit carrier 22 and being deformed outward and upward to form a mechanical and electrical connection with individual ones of the electrical leads 32 in the circuit carrier (col. 5, line 51 – col. 6, line 33).

In claim 3, **Hayes et al** disclose the body of the conductive connector 94 comprises at least one arm (three side sections 102; figs 12-14) adapted to contact the associated terminal (78) to establish mechanical and electrical communication with the associated terminal (col. 5, line 51 – col. 6, line 33).

In claims 4-6, **Hayes et al** disclose a vehicle seat comprising a lower seat cushion and elements of the claims 1-3 (figs 1-14; col. 4, line 6 – col. 6, line 33).

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In claims 7 and 8, **Hayes et al** disclose a method of manufacturing a vehicle occupant sensing system for detecting a condition of a vehicle seat comprising elements of claims 1-3 (figs. 1-14; col. 2, lines 9-20; col. 4, line 6 – col. 6, line 33).

Conclusion

4. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anne V. Lai whose telephone number is 571-272-2974. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am to 5:30 pm, Monday to Thursday.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hofsass Jeffery can be reached on 571-272-2981. The

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fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

AVL
September 26, 2005


JEFFERY HOFSAAS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600